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UNITED STATES ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20451

Executive Registry

76-6128

January 9, 1976

Honorable William E. Colby  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Colby:

During the past six to eight months I have represented the National Security Council staff and the Cabinet Committee to Combat Terrorism/Working Group in directing an interagency study on crisis management aspects of mass destruction terrorism. That study was completed several months ago and at this time the NSC is pursuing a number of its recommendations. The study has wide governmental representation, including your agency. At the time my primary points of contact were [redacted] and [redacted] I understand that [redacted] have taken over their functions.

A few days ago I was asked by the NSC staff to get a head start on the crisis management problems attendant to serious acts of terrorism. In particular, they requested that I look into matters that could seriously affect our security in 1976, particularly at the height of the Bicentennial festivities and the Canadian Olympics. With the widespread availability of the most modern surface-to-air missiles and wire-guided antitank weapons, and the political stage of the Bicentennial, it is not improbable that armored cars transporting heads of state, nuclear power plants, commercial aircraft or regional FAA control facilities would become lush targets for terrorist assault or extortion.

I propose to form a small, interagency ad hoc group that would examine such terrorist problems from a security, intelligence requirements, legal, threat assessment, and management point of view. It would be a relatively short

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State Dept. review completed

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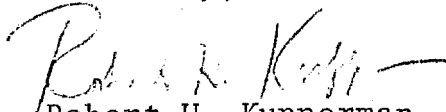
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inquiry -- some two or three months -- in order to be useful in the 1976 time frame. As a result of the study I hope that a government-wide "crisis management team" emerges, that clear policy alternatives are presented, and that quick security or other physical "fixes" to nuclear power plant facilities, airports, etc. are realizable.

In addition to CIA representation, I hope to include representatives from State, Justice, Treasury, DOD, Transportation, ERDA, NRC and GSA/FPA. At this time most of the departments and agencies have indicated their enthusiastic willingness to participate fully.

I hope that you will find this area of preparedness to be sufficiently compelling that you could assign a representative of your agency to participate actively in the effort. I believe that inputs from the scientific side of the CIA would prove to be as important as the contributions from the operational side have been. I am confident that the conduct of this short-run effort can prove to be very useful, especially in a period of national joy that could be tragically marred so easily.

Sincerely,

  
Robert H. Kupperman  
Chief Scientist

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Executive Secretary

Date

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